

# Delhi Public School, Jammu

## Periodic Test-2 Assignment (2017-18)

Class: 9<sup>th</sup>

Subject: English

### Section-A: Reading

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

Parental pressure on children to excel-especially academically-is an enduring characteristic of middle class India. Over the past two decades with the accelerated growth of the pre-school sector-there are over 300,000 private pre-primaries in the West have confirmed that overemphasis on formal education and abstract concepts on literacy and numeracy before age five can result in sense of failure, long term underachievement, disaffection and even truancy. The pressure to learn too much too early kills children's innate curiosity and burns them out. Unfortunately in India, there are two extremes-on the one hand, there is no teaching-learning happening in the country's 1.3 million anganwadis, whereas on the other hand, there is too much learning going on in private schools. Parental and societal pressure to perform well academically is a global phenomenon. Even in Australia, after the introduction of National Assessment Programme for Literacy and Numeracy, parental pressure on Kindergarteners to prepare for NAPLAN has increased enormously. In countries such as Korea and Japan, it's much worse.

In Singapore, as in India, parental pressure on pre-schools to begin early reading, writing and numeracy is intense, yet, Singapore boasts of one of the world's best Early Childhood Care Education (ECCE) systems that's because not only their ECCE curriculums are standardized, but also have to be approved by the education ministry. The government is also making an effort to introduce holistic education at pre-primary level. In India there is no government mandated national ECCE curriculums to ensure age appropriate learning educate parents on the adverse effects of early learning', respect for child rights and the long term benefits of holistic curriculum.

- (a) Middle class parents in India ----- their children to excel academically.
- (b) Pre primary refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) The pressure to learn too much at an early age results in killing of innate \_\_\_\_\_ in children.
- (d) India presents two contrasting pictures of pre- schooling, one is of \_\_\_\_\_ where even the essential levels are not taught and the other is of \_\_\_\_\_ where too much is happening on the teaching \_learning front.
- (e) Napalm is a programme in Australia that had led to \_\_\_\_\_ in parental pressure
- (f) Singapore has a \_\_\_\_\_ ECCE curriculum that has made it one of the world's best ECCE \_\_\_\_\_.
- (g) One of the reasons of wide disparity in programmes of pre-schools in India is \_\_\_\_\_
- (h) Which word in the last para means the same as results?

**2. Read the following paragraph and answer the question follows:**

To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundations, the inspiration and the motivation power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Thoughts are the causes and the conditions are the effects. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.

Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside. Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means the soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self-consciousness, we have the power to choose to remain positive and harbor positive thoughts.

Krishna says, "No man resteth a moment inactive." Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally actions follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.

Thoughts or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. No matter how small the thought, these small thoughts are like seeds that grow together to make up large tree or a thought that determines one's general character.

- (a) What determines a person's character?
- (b) How are thoughts and actions related?
- (c) What is the interconnection between thoughts and deeds?
- (d) 'What we choose is what we become'. What do you understand by this statement?
- (e) What is meant by 'foundations'? (Para 1)
- (f) What is meant by 'charitable'? (Para 4)
- (g) Find the word opposite in meaning to 'never changing'. (Para 4)
- (h) Find the word opposite in the meaning to 'tainted' (Para 3)

### **Section-B: Writing & Grammar**

- 3. Write an article on the topic "We need more Good Men than God Men" in 100 to 120 words.**
- 4. Develop a story in about 200-250 words and also give suitable title.**

When Stacey woke up today, she found herself lying on the footpath. Passers-by were watching her. She could not understand how she reached there.....

Write a story with a proper title in 200-250 words.

- 5. Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below.**

Where there are Zebra crossings on the road for the pedestrians to cross, one (a) \_\_\_\_\_

Cross along them. One should keep to the margin of the road (b) \_\_\_\_\_ walking and the vehicles (c) \_\_\_\_\_ keep their lanes busy streets.

- |               |            |              |            |
|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| (a) (i) can   | (ii) could | (iii) should | (iv) might |
| (b) (i) while | (ii) as    | (iii) for    | (iv) to    |
| (c) (i) might | (ii) may   | (iii) would  | (iv) must  |

6. The following passage has not been edited. One word is missing from each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before it and the word that comes after it.

	Word Before	Missing Word	Word After
You know and comprehend	e.g., You	should	know
that the job self improvement	(a) _____	_____	_____
is ceaseless, we experience as	(b) _____	_____	_____
we advance life. Working	(c) _____	_____	_____
to better yourself , lives of	(d) _____	_____	_____
those around you the cosmos	(e) _____	_____	_____
will make you among top visionaries	(f) _____	_____	_____
By taking steps better yourself	(g) _____	_____	_____
And seeking to improve the Earth	(h) _____	_____	_____

7. Rearrange the given words and phrases to form meaningful sentences:

- (a) animals/all/good/sense of/have/smell/a
- (b) highly/adaptive/it/is/human/in
- (c) is picked up/the sense/by/of smell/never ending

### SECTION-C: Literature Textbook & Extended Reading Text

8. Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

‘Please don’t joke Gaston. What this lady says is perfectly right. Will you tell me, Madame, what price you are asking for the villa ?’

- (1) Who asks Gaston not to joke ?
- (2) Who does ‘this lady’ refer to ?
- (3) What was the joke told Gaston ?
- (4) Why was Gaston joking while speaking to the lady ?

*Or*

But still as wilder blew the wind,  
 And as the night grew drearer,  
 Adown the glen rode armed men,  
 Their trampling sounded nearer.

- (1) Name the poem and the poet.
- (2) From where did the armed men come ?
- (3) Who were they ?
- (4) What does ‘night grew drearer’ mean ?

9. Answer any four questions in 30-40 words:

- (i) Why was the grandmother so keen on doing the home work ?
- (ii) How did Jeanne react to Gaston’s decision to purchase the villa ?
- (iii) How do you justify professor’s intelligent reading ?
- (iv) In the poem, Lord Ullin’s Daughter, how does the poet build the atmosphere of doom
- (v) How does Duke proved to be a beacon of light for Hooper?

**10. Answer one of the following questions in 100-120 words:**

- (1) Compare the characters of Gaston and Jeanne.
- (2) What is the refrain in “The Brook”? What does it symbolize?

**11. Answer one of the following questions in 150-200 words :**

- (1) Comment on the ‘dress sense’ of Jerome. What does it tell us about ?
- (2) Why did the three friends in the “Three Men in a Boat” decide to go on a holiday ? was the purpose fulfilled ? give reasons for your answer.